



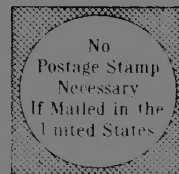
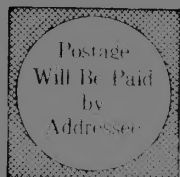
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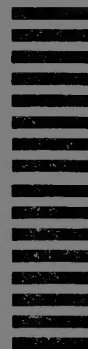
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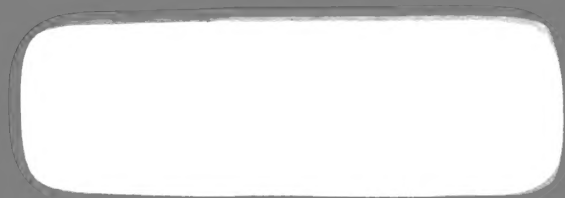
JOSEPH S. MERRITT, INC.

HYDRANGEA SPECIALISTS

BOX 4088, DUNDALK 22, MARYLAND

6-10-53

FIRST CLASS MAIL



IMPORTANT CULTURAL SUGGESTIONS!

OVER TEN ACRES OF MERRITT'S HYDRANGEAS GROWING FOR YOU



JOSEPH S. MERRITT INC.

Street: 1050 E. N. S. Highway 100
P. O. Box 10000, Dundalk, Md.
Stansbury Hotel, Hagerstown, Md.

The Maryland Flower Garden

HYDRANGEA SPECIALISTS

MAIL ADDRESS: P. O. BOX 4088, DUNDALK (BALTIMORE) 22, MD.

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Res. D.S.F. ATwater 5-3428

HYDRANGEA CULTURE IN BRIEF

Part A—Starting From Rooted Cuttings

1. **PREPARING SOIL**—A good soil mix, consisting of 2 parts loam and 1 part peat, one well rotted cow manure and 10 lbs. of bone meal per bushel of soil, should be used. If the soil is too heavy, add 1 part sharp sand. Soil pH should be 5.5 to 6.5. If too acid, lime as needed. Seedlings will thrive best in pH 5.5 to 6.5. Let soil sit at least 12 hours before using soil in preparing the well garden.

2. **ROOTING CUTTINGS**—Trim to 12 inches, remove all side branches, or 20. The larger shoot ends are good. Cuttings should be made in the shade of a bushy plant. Cuttings should be made in the shade of a bushy plant. Cuttings should be made in the shade of a bushy plant. Cuttings should be made in the shade of a bushy plant.

3. **SOIL & WATER TESTING**—Test soil for pH and nutrient content. Extension service with 40 mg. soil per test. Test water for pH and nutrient content. Test soil pH at 6.0 to 6.5.

4. **SUMMER FEEDING**—Heavy NITROGEN feeding is usually needed. Use PHOSPHORUS and POTASSIUM. Liquid fertilizer is a good general purpose feed. Liquid fertilizer is a good general purpose feed. Liquid fertilizer is a good general purpose feed. Liquid fertilizer is a good general purpose feed.

5. **WATERING**—Hydrangea plants should be watered well, but they should not be watered too much.

6. **PINCHING**—Pinch plants when stems are 12 inches tall. Pinch plants when stems are 12 inches tall. Pinch plants when stems are 12 inches tall. Pinch plants when stems are 12 inches tall.

7. **FALL STORAGE**—Don't take a chance on frost or freezing. Flowers buds should be covered when night temperatures drop below 40°F. Store plants in the dark, moist, cool place. Store plants in the dark, moist, cool place. Store plants in the dark, moist, cool place. Store plants in the dark, moist, cool place.

Part B—Forcing From Dormancy

8. **ROOTING**—Remove plants from storage. Test soil for pH and nutrient content. Test soil for pH and nutrient content. Test soil for pH and nutrient content. Test soil for pH and nutrient content.

9. **FINISHING**—Water plants in the morning. Water plants in the morning. Water plants in the morning. Water plants in the morning. Water plants in the morning. Water plants in the morning. Water plants in the morning. Water plants in the morning.

10. **FEEDING**—The use of a 2-1-1 fertilizer for liquid feeding is recommended at the rate of 15 to 20 gals. water every 10 days. Feeding should be done when the plants are in the shade of a bushy plant.

11. **FLOWER COLORS**—The amount of available ALUMINUM in the soil determines the color of the flowers.

12. **FEEDING**—The use of a 2-1-1 fertilizer for liquid feeding is recommended at the rate of 15 to 20 gals. water every 10 days. Feeding should be done when the plants are in the shade of a bushy plant.

13. **CHLOROSIS**—Lack of iron in the soil, or injured roots resulting from over watering, will cause chlorosis, which usually shows up as a yellowing of leaves, with darker green veins. The cause for this condition should be detected and corrected immediately to prevent permanent damage to the plants. While corrective action is being taken, use a CHLOROSIS TONIC at rate of 1 ounce to 25 gals. water to restore green color to leaves.

14. **MILDEW**—Dark and damp weather, or night temperatures below 50°F. are cause for mildew. Best treatment is to open vents as much as possible, immediately on cloudy days. Apply SULPHUR to heating pipes, or use MILDEN, if available in your area. Normally the condition will correct itself with plenty of fresh air and sunlight. CAUTION: Some AEROSOL INSECTICIDES are not compatible with SULPHUR. Play safe and use aerosols within 1 day following sulphur application.

15. **INSECTS**—Avoid growing plants, keep them well fertilized, properly watered and heated. Aphids can be controlled by LINDANE, and the THAWTON or PARATHION aerosols are excellent for control of RED SPIDER and APHIDS.

16. **FINISHING**—Attempt to harden off the plants about 2 weeks before sale by cutting vents a little more, and lowering night temperatures to 40°F. but not below 35°F. Hardening the plants will help them stand up better in retail stores and customers' homes. ALWAYS SOAK THE PLANT WELL BEFORE DELIVERY.

Joseph S. Merritt, Jr.

Revised September 1958

MERRITT'S HYDRANGEAS BLOOM

DETACH ALONG PERFORATION — USE HANDY POCKET FOR ENCLOSURE. FOLD, SEAL AND MAIL. NO POSTAGE NECESSARY.